



The Division for Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Advocates' Communication Meeting Summary

April 24, 2015
10:30am-12:30pm

Colorado MS Society, Snowmass One Conference Room
900 South Broadway, Denver, CO 80209

Community Invitees Present:		State Staff Invitees Present:	
Carol Meredith		Adam Tucker – DIDD	
Cassidy Dellemonache		Joanne Svenningsen – DIDD	
Hanni Raley*		Lori Williams – DIDD	
Heidi Haines			
Jan Rasmussen			
Jeanne Weis			
Julie Farrar			
Kasey Daniel			
Kelie Kyser			
Lisa Franklin			
Marcia Tewell			
Mary Glatz			
Gerrie Frohne			
Grace Ormsby			
Sam Ormsby			
Valerie Saiz			
Veronica Brennan			
*Attended by phone			
Agenda Item	Status/Decisions Made		Assignments/Commitments
Purpose of the Meetings	The purpose of the meeting is to ensure ongoing, transparent, and collaborative communication between the Division for Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (DIDD) and the advocacy stakeholders.		

The mission of the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing is to improve health care access and outcomes for the people we serve while demonstrating sound stewardship of financial resources.



<p>I. Introductions and review of last month meeting summary</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introductions made. • Contact Joanne Svenningsen with questions regarding the March 2015 meeting summary. 	<p>Questions about the summary:</p> <p>Joanne Svenningsen 303-866-5161 Joanne.Svenningsen@state.co.us 1570 Grant St. Denver, CO 80203</p>
<p>II. New Business</p> <p>A. SIS and Support Level Determination Process</p>	<p>SIS and Support Level Determination Process</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The goal of today's presentation is to explain and clarify the SIS assessment/re-assessment and Support Level processes. • The focus is on the process; individual situations and circumstances should be addressed offline with Department staff. • The processes for SIS reassessment and Support Level Review were outlined, and were included in the attached Rule and the attached visuals. • The CMA is responsible for the Support Level determination process which includes administering the SIS assessment and determining if the individual meets community safety risk and/or extreme risk to self. • In the event that a new SIS assessment or a review of the Support Level may be needed, the individual's case manager must be contacted so they can initiate a SIS Reassessment or Support Level Review request. • In response to comments regarding a perceived conflict of interest stemming from SIS interviewers as employees of CCBs, discussion included the fact that CCBs only stand to gain financially if the SIS and Support Levels are increased. • All new SIS Interviewers are trained by Lori Williams over a two-day classroom session, 2 coaching sessions (2 additional co-facilitations with a certified SIS Interviewer) to be certified as a SIS Interviewer to conduct SIS assessments on their own. • The SIS Interviewer trainee will not be certified if they do not pass an IRQR. • Attendees expressed frustration with the "Train the Trainer" model. 	<p>Questions regarding the SIS and Support Level Determination:</p> <p>Lori Williams 303-866-5160 Lori.Williams@state.co.us 1570 Grant St. Denver, CO 80203</p>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attendees articulated that families felt exhausted by the process, including preparing for evaluations. The SIS process, per attendees, can lack person-centeredness. For example, questions regarding employment and higher education must still be asked, which, for some families, is an extremely painful process. Staff clarified that a Level 7 (option only available to individuals in the HCBS-DD waiver) is available based on exceptional needs and is provided at a negotiated rate and that Level of Need Checklists were suspended in March 2015. Metrics on requests to the Department regarding SIS/Support Level from July 1, 2014 – April 17, 2015 shared. <u>214 SIS Reassessment Requests</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 190 approved for a new SIS Assessment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 116 SIS reassessments resulted in a higher Support Level 30 SIS reassessments did not yield a change in Support Level 2 resulted in a decrease of Support Level 42 SIS reassessments have not been completed (in process of being scheduled and/or completed) 12 denied for a new SIS Assessment 11 approved for temporary Support Level increase 1 SIS reassessment request withdrawn by the Case Management Agency at their request 1 SIS reassessment request pending (waiting on follow-up from CMA) <u>61 Support Level Review Requests</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 53 requests approved for a higher Support Level 8 requests denied for a higher Support Level Attendees expressed that the presentation of the data was helpful because it assists families in understanding the risks of seeking reassessments, which is low given that only two individuals received a reduction in Support Level in a 10 month timeframe. Although some families may feel that notification by the Case Manager that the Support Level may decrease based on a SIS 	
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<p>B. Eligibility and the DD Waiver: Update</p>	<p>reassessment, family members/guardians need to be made aware of the three possible outcomes of having a new SIS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Support Level can increase, ○ The Support Level can remain the same, ○ The Support Level can decrease. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Also, the Support Level is based on the current SIS and the additional factors. • At this time, the Department is committed to keeping the SIS. • The Department expects to evaluate assessment tools over the next year to determine which tool best integrates with the long term care assessment tool considered by the current task group, which is working with HCBS Strategies. • The group has identified the CMS tool called CARE and will be piloting this summer. • This tool is based on a cross-disability model. CMS is considering the possibility of incorporating a module with I/DD specific evaluative questions into the tool, but must wait for a Congressional appropriation to move forward with the work. • In the meantime, HCBS Strategies is working to integrate the SIS into the current CARE tool. • The Department is committed to including the following concepts in the tool: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Person centered process ○ Population specific to best capture needs for individuals with I/DD ○ Inter-rater reliability for consistency ○ Ensure equitable consideration of resources • Department staff will take back the request that the SIS be discontinued. <p>Eligibility and the DD Waiver: Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff followed up on last month's question about whether one application form could be filled out and subsequently submitted to the Department's contractor and also to the federal Social Security Administration (SSA). 	<p>Questions regarding Eligibility and the DD Waiver:</p> <p>Eric Stricca 303-866-4475 Eric.Stricca@state.co.us 1570 Grant St. Denver, CO 80203</p>
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F. Budget & Enrollments	Budget & Enrollments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There won't be an over-expenditure this year. • An additional 108 enrollments added across three waivers (6 in DD, 91 in SLS, and 11 in CES) • As announced last month, CDASS funding was approved for FY 2015-16. 	<p>Questions regarding Budget & Enrollments:</p> <p>Emily Blanford 303-866-5141 Emily.Blanford@state.co.us 1570 Grant St. Denver, CO 80203</p>
G. Legislative Updates	Legislative Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HB 15-1318 – Waiver Redesign <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The bill passed Committee of Reference, Appropriations, and was heard on the House Floor Yesterday. ○ The Department anticipates it moving to the Senate shortly. 	
H. Attendee Comments and Announcements	Attendee Comments and Announcements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In terms of the letter sent to the Department regarding the SIS, the Department cannot speak to the content of the letter at this time as a response is being drafted and cleared. • When a formal response is cleared, it can be distributed at this meeting during this standing agenda section of the meeting and Department Subject Matter Experts will attend to address the concerns raised. 	
V. Adjournment	The next Advocates' Communication Meeting will be May 22, 2015 from 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. at Hosting.com.	

